

STARVED "FANS" KEEN FOR BASEBALL FEAST

Major League Pennant Races to Begin with a Rush This Week.

FIRST CLASH IN BROOKLYN

Special Opening for Superbas on Wednesday, While the Giants Will Make Bow on Thursday.

"Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious summer" by the crash of bat against ball and the shout of the umpire: "The batteries will be —." The flags will be flying at Ebbets Field on Wednesday for the special opening of the National League season, where the Superbas will strive valiantly to properly christen their new home with a victory over the Phillies. At the Polo Grounds, in this borough, and in seven other cities throughout the land which boast of major league teams, the season will begin on Thursday, providing, of course, the well known little showers of April do not spoil the fun.

The "fans" are hungry—almost starved. This unhappy condition is plainly indicated by the crowds which have turned out to see exhibition games in the various cities. It has been a long time since last October, and everything points to packed stands for the opening day, and the most prosperous and successful year in the history of organized baseball.

The Giants will make their bow under the lee of Coogan's Bluff against Boston—not the Red Sox. That happy occasion must be postponed until next fall, and the reference is not made to recall that little unpleasantness of last October. The Braves will be here to open the season with a defeat, it is hoped. It would be hard on the nerves if the haughty Giants, fresh from a brilliant whirl from Marlin Springs to New York, should bite the dust before forty thousand clamoring "fans" at the instance of the team which finished so far, far behind a year ago. Still, it will be no easy victory. Baseball is uncertain, and Hub Purdie, whom George Stallings is grooming for the fray, is a real pitcher.

McGraw May Pick Tesreau.

It is idle at this time to forecast the pitcher who will be in the box for the Giants. John J. McGraw would hardly tell if he knew, but, as he himself has said so many times, such a decision cannot be made until he sees his men warm up. Some indication of what his plans may be is likely to be shown on Wednesday, when the Giants will face the Yale team in a curtain raiser, so to speak, to the start of the pennant race. Big Jeff Tesreau would not be a bad guess, but the honor may fall to Matty, as he appears to be far more advanced than was the case a year ago, as indicated by his going the full nine innings in two games last week.

The Yankees will not be seen in a league game at their temporary quarters on the Polo Grounds until April 17, but they will do their part toward making a baseball holiday for the Washington "fans" on Thursday, when they take the field against the Senators. The followers of that game will watch the result of that game with keen interest. They resent Clark Griffith's confident assertion that the Yankees will be easy prey, and that his team should win four of the first six games played with New York and Philadelphia as opponents. If Chance and his men can jump off with a victory it will be accepted as a good omen. There is reason to believe that what will be the case, too, although Walter Johnson looms up, and everything else being equal Walter Johnson is a mighty hard pitcher to beat.

Double Opening for New York.

New York is favored this year with a double opening. It was brought about by Charles H. Ebbets, chief owner of the Brooklyn Superbas, spending three-quarters of a million dollars or thereabouts to build one of the best and most approved baseball parks in the country. It was only fair under the circumstances that the other owners in the National League should recognize the enterprise and courage of Mr. Ebbets by making an exception in his favor. The Superbas might have suffered in conflict with a game at the Polo Grounds and the National League champions as an attraction. As it is, Bill Dahlen and his men will have the field to themselves, and if the weather gods smile they are sure to make the most of it.

The advance sale of seats indicates a world's series crowd. Mr. Ebbets has promised that the playing field will be kept clear, which means that the commodious stands will be taxed to their full capacity. Everybody wants to be on hand for what may be called the formal opening of the new park, and it will be surprising if a single seat of the 25,000 is vacant.

Bill Dahlen, manager of the Superbas, said on Friday that his men were in good condition considering the fact that so much time had been lost and so many days wasted because of rain, rain, rain on the Southern training trip. The players looked and acted well in their game against the Yankees yesterday, and while Mr. Ebbets and his associates are not making any promises, it was plain in talking to them that they have high hopes for the coming season. The final details for the opening of the new park have been arranged, and the "fans" must be patient for three more days.

It may be mentioned here in passing that the most direct way to the park is by the Brighton Beach line of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit, to Consumers' Park station. The approaches to the grounds have not yet been finished, so that the "fans" are advised to leave the station platform at the south end, which is nearest to the main entrance. In this way they will save themselves

MEN WHO WILL LEAD GIANTS, YANKEES AND THE SUPERBAS INTO ACTION THIS SEASON AND THE BUILDER OF EBBETS FIELD



BILL DAHLEN
Manager of the SUPERBAS



FRANK CHANCE, Manager of the YANKEES.



JOHN J. MCGRAW
Manager of the GIANTS.



CHAS. H. EBBETS
President of the BROOKLYN CLUB.

a short walk through a dusty and rather confined alley.

Giants Get Home on Tuesday.

The Giants will not arrive in this city until Tuesday evening, as they have a couple of games to play with the Washington Senators to complete their long hike from Marlin Springs to their own diamond. They will be at the Polo Grounds on Wednesday for a game with Yale, as said before, as final preparation to the opening of the season on Thursday. No team in either league has been so well favored with good weather. The players have worked hard and earnestly without losing a single full day from practice, and judging from what the baseball war correspondents say, the men are in the same good condition as a year ago, when they jumped off to a long lead in the pennant race.

The march from Marlin Springs has been one long line of victories. Winning fifteen of sixteen exhibition games in a row is nothing wonderful, perhaps, but it shows that the players are properly keyed up and ready for the more difficult battles to come. The training trip has been successful in every sense of the word, and the Little Napoleon will have no excuses to make if his Giants do not set the pace from the start.

On Frank Chance's own word, the Yankees are just about ready for the first clash with the enemy. The dampness in Bermuda was a slight drawback, but on the whole he has expressed himself as well pleased and greatly encouraged at the outlook. The players will go to Washington on Wednesday with some of Chance's own spirit—not to accept defeat, as seemed to be the attitude so many times last year, but to beat the Senators on their own diamond.

Many Changes Over Winter.

Many changes have taken place in major league baseball since the season closed last year, among which may be mentioned the death of John T. Brush, chief owner of the Giants, and the election of Harry N. Hempstead as president of the club; the elimination of Herr Horace Fogel and the sale of the Phillies to a syndicate headed by William J. Locke, former secretary of the Pittsburgh Pirates; the taking over of practically all the stock of the Boston Braves by James E. Gaffney, and the appointment of George Stallings, once leader of the Yankees, as manager of the team; the deposition of Roger Bresnahan as manager of the St. Louis Cardinals and his signing as catcher with the Chicago Cubs; the sensational deal by which Joe Tinker left the Cincinnati Reds in place of Hank O'Day, and by which Frank Chance, former manager of the Cubs, came to this city to lead the Yankees.

Speaking of managers, four clubs in the National League will try to improve their standing this year under new leaders. Johnny Evers, the wily second baseman, will control the destinies of the Cubs in place of Frank Chance; Joe Tinker, for several years shortstop with the Cubs, will try to keep the Reds in a forward place, succeeding Hank O'Day; Miller Huggins was promoted at the expense of Roger Bresnahan, and will do his best to land the Cardinals in the first division, while George Stallings has ambitions to do something with the lowly Boston Braves.

In the American League the only really truly new manager is Frank Chance, with the Yankees; but George Stovall, who took over the Cleveland Naps toward the middle of last season, and Joe Birmingham, who assumed the reins of the St. Louis Browns last September, may also be ranked as newcomers.

No changes have been made in the leading teams of either league, and while every manager has studied to strengthen some weak point here and there, few new faces will be noted when the players take the field for the opening games. The managers who hold over are as follows: Boston Red Sox, Jake Stahl; Philadelphia Athletics, Cornelius McGillicuddy, better known as Connie Mack; Washington Senators,

Full Roster of the Home Teams

The roster of the three home teams—Giants, Yankees and Superbas—with the batting order for the opening games of the season and batting and fielding averages of a year ago, follow:

NEW YORK GIANTS.	
Batting	Fielding
average.	average.
Snodgrass, C. F.	.269 .348
Shaffer, C. F.	.258 .879
Burns, L. F.	.294 1.000
Doyle, 2 B.	.330 .948
Murray, R. F.	.277 .568
Merkle, 1 B.	.309 .980
Herzog, 3 B.	.263 .942
Meyers, C.	.358 .975
Tesreau, P.	.146 .935

Pitchers—Mathewson, Marquard, Ames, Crandall, Willse, Demaree, Schupp and Goulet.
Utility players—Devore, Cooper, McCormick, Thorpe, Jacobson, Groh, Stock, Fletcher, Wilson and Hartley.
Manager—John J. McGraw.

NEW YORK YANKEES.	
Batting	Fielding
average.	average.
Daniels, C. F.	.274 .945
Walter, C. F.	.268 .945
Hartzel, 3 B.	.272 .906
Cree, 1 B.	.352 .918
Chase, 2 B.	.274 .579
Chance, 1 B.	— .—
Sweeney, C.	.268 .955
Derrick, S.	.241 .884
Caldwell, P.	.237 .938

Chance and Walter played in too few games to be included in the averages.
Pitchers—Ford, Warhop, McConnell, Keating, Fisher, Hoff, Davis, Schulz.
Utility players—Lelivelt, Barry, Martin, Priest, Midkiff, Young, Stump, Harbison, Williams and Sterrett.
Manager—Frank L. Chance.

BROOKLYN SUPERBAS.	
Batting	Fielding
average.	average.
Stengel, C. F.	.316 .902
Cutshaw, 2 B.	.280 .953
Meyer, C. F.	.243 .964
Wheat, 1 B.	.305 .968
Daubert, 3 B.	.308 .993
Smith, S.	.286 .928
Fischer, S.	.233 .917
Miller, C.	.278 .975
Kurker, P.	.245 .989

Meyer's average made in the International League.
Pitchers—Curtis, Stack, Ragon, Youngling, Allen, Kent and Hall.
Utility players—Callahan, Hummel, Moran, Wagner, Kirkpatrick, Phelps and Kewin.
Manager—W. F. Dahlen.

RELAY RACES DRAW WELL

Seventy-two Colleges Entered for Pennsylvania Carnival.

Philadelphia, April 5.—Seventy-two colleges have entered for the annual carnival of relay races and field sports of the University of Pennsylvania, on April 26. With the close of entries in the special events before the middle of this month, it is expected that the number of colleges entered will be increased. In the field events and college relay championships Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Syracuse, Dartmouth, Michigan, Chicago, Illinois, Missouri, Notre Dame, Virginia, Northwest, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Wesleyan, Brown, Ohio State and Colgate will be represented, while the remainder of the colleges will be found in the several group races.

The entries for the one-mile, two-mile and four-mile national relay championships are the best in the history of the games. There are 185 schools in the scholastic events.

A NEW POLE VAULT RECORD

Borstrom Sets New Interscholastic Mark at Game.

Berkeley, Cal., April 5.—Charles Borstrom, of the University of Southern California Preparatory School, broke the world's interscholastic record for the pole vault yesterday, clearing the bar at 12 feet 6 1/4 inches. He was a competitor in the Pacific Coast interscholastic track meet.

The former mark was 12 feet 1 inch, made originally by Roy Mercer, of Mercersburg Academy, Maryland, at the Princeton interscholastic meet in 1909, and tied in 1911 by Eugene Schobinger, of Harvard School, Chicago.

HARVARD TEAM UNBEATEN

Crimson Marksmen Capture Rifle Championship.

Washington, April 5.—Harvard, without a defeat, won the Eastern League intercollegiate rifle shooting championship today. Massachusetts Agricultural College was second, with one defeat, and Princeton University third, with two defeats.

In the Western League, the series resulted in a tie, which must be shot off, between the West Virginia University and Iowa State University, both having won twelve matches and lost one. The team winning the shoot-off will shoot against Harvard to determine the United States intercollegiate championship.

Ten Thousand Schoolboy Athletes in One Meet

Plan Monster Demonstration to Show How Work Is Done.

DRILLING THE TEAMS NOW

Track Events To Be Conducted on Wholesale Plan in Central Park.

The greatest demonstration of schoolboy athletics and physical training, and at the same time the largest field day ever held in the world, will be put on in Central Park on the afternoon of Friday, June 6, by the Public Schools Athletic League.

On the huge field of the green ten thousand grammar grade boys from the public schools of all boroughs will be assembled and simultaneously perform various drills and compete in a programme of athletic events. The boys will bend, breathe, stretch and go through the new two-minute drill and the exercises of the new public school course.

A single pistol shot will start from 100 to 200 relay teams of fifty boys each in a contest for school supremacy. The other events, such as the jump, hurdle and discus drill, will be on a similar wholesale plan.

This monster demonstration of the work of the public schools and the athletic league in numbers exceeds all athletic gatherings, except the adult turnfest at Prague in 1912. It will distance anything heretofore attempted with boys. The field day will be in charge of the following committee:

Chairman, Gustavus T. Kirby, president of the Amateur Athletic Union; General George W. Wingate, president of the Public Schools Athletic League; S. R. Gugenheim, C. Ward Crampton, director of physical training of the New York public schools; Vincent Astor, Luther Halsey Gulick, and Dr. Edward W. Stitt, district superintendent of schools.

Park Commissioner C. B. Stover, while not a member of the working committee, has offered to co-operate in every way possible. Through Mr. Stover the Public Schools Athletic League committee obtained the use of the field in Central Park and the necessary stands for special guests. Similarly Thomas W. Churchill, president of the Board of Education, and the city superintendent, William H. Maxwell, have assured the committee of the co-operation of the public schools.

While the detailed programme is not yet completed, Dr. Crampton, who will have charge of the boys and of school arrangements, states that the big programme of mobilizing and transporting the boys to and from the field has been settled. The Public Schools Athletic League

will provide the number of starters, clerks of course and judges necessary. While the actual schools which will send from one to five teams of fifty boys have not yet been finally determined, the work of drilling the boys began during the last week.

An invitation to see the ten thousand future citizens in action will be extended by the committee to the President of the United States, ex-Presidents Taft and Roosevelt, the Governors of New York and neighboring states, the mayors of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and other large cities, the aldermen and heads of city departments, borough presidents and many other prominent in civic and educational affairs.

In discussing the demonstration Mr. Kirby, chairman of the committee, said: "We want to make this field day one of the greatest object lessons in health and citizenship any country has ever been privileged to witness. I can imagine no more inspiring or impressive sight than to see ten thousand boys, all of whom will be healthy, happy, well disciplined boys when they all are in action at the same moment."

General Wingate, president of the league, said: "For one thing, our demonstration to hold this meet on such a gigantic scale shows our everlasting confidence in the New York boy as we of the Public Schools Athletic League have come to know him. This also is a compliment to the superintendents, principals and teachers who make it possible to handle boys in such numbers. It will open the eyes of many New Yorkers when they see the manliness, fine bearing, health, keen-mindedness and absolute self-respect and obedience of these boys, taken at random from public schools located on easy ways of transportation to the park."

CUSHION CARROM TOURNEY

Challenge Cup Offered for Big Field of Amateurs.

A field of ambitious amateurs will begin competitions in a cushion carrom handicap billiard tournament to-morrow night at Paul's Academy, 135th street and 7th avenue, under the direction of the National Association of Amateur Billiard Players. Fifteen competitors will take part in these matches for which a challenge cup is offered.

The cup is to be subject to a ten-day challenge at the existing handicap marks and to become the property of the player winning it three times, not necessarily in succession. The scratch mark players in the tournament will play games of fifty points' duration, the handicaps scaling down to twenty-five points for the weaker competitors.

Among those who will play for the new trophy are Julius Hirsch, Lawrence Kornicker, A. M. Krieger, J. Sachs, Alfred Isenburger, D. F. Schmebeck, Irving Weill, Sylvester Levy, G. A. Baldwin, P. O'Connell, George H. Brick, J. A. Klinek, E. Pierson, Captain J. H. Foster and P. R. McGown.

EBBETS FIELD HAS NO RIVAL IN BASEBALL

New Home of Brooklyn Superbas Combines Every Idea for Comfort of Patrons.

CROWDING IS ELIMINATED

Great Grandstand Can Be Filled and Emptied Through Myriad Stiles and with No Stairs to Climb.

Ebbets Field is the last word in the way of a baseball park. Charles H. Ebbets, president and chief owner of the Brooklyn club, has spared neither money nor constant care to add to the comfort and convenience of the "fans" and players. Nothing has been overlooked. From grandstand to playing field every modern improvement has been made, and the home of the Brooklyn Superbas, who, according to one of their most ardent rooters, "are first in well wishers, first in enthusiasm, but only seventh in the National League pennant race," stands out as the most complete field in the country to-day.

Erected at a cost of \$550,000, the park includes everything that could be thought out by the fertile brain of a master in baseball. The grandstand is the pride of Mr. Ebbets, and of it he has good reason to be proud, as he has practically designed it himself. The entrance to the stand is more like that of some vast theatre than of a ball park, and the local "fans" have never seen anything like it. The main gate is located at the corner of Cedar Place and Sullivan street, named after General Sullivan of Revolutionary War fame.

The lobby of the entrance is more than eighty feet in diameter, and is resplendent with its marble and glazed brick walls, its plate glass windows in the ticket booths and glass railings. There are a dozen ticket windows placed about the rotunda, and an enormous crowd can be handled quietly and with little trouble. Since all stairs have been done away with and inclined runways installed in place, the "fans" will have no trouble in finding their seats quickly.

The holders of unreserved seats will enter through the stile, which will be marked, and, ascending the short incline, will come out in the centre of the stand, from whence they may take the best seats procurable. The holders of box seats and seats in the front reserved section will proceed through the proper stile, under and to the front of the stand and to their proper seats.

There will be no unnecessary intermingling of the fans. Those who hold tickets for the upper tier will ascend the runways at the rear of the stands and so up to their seats. The bleacherites will find ticket booths at convenient points. Only one point is lacking to add to the comfort of all. There is not a single knothole in the whole blooming fence, for what with the great steel girders and solid concrete, the small boy will have to draw his own conclusions from the volume of noise that will arise from the inner battlements.

The park is centrally located and easy of access to all. For the benefit of the New York "fans" who will make the trip, it is noted that the fastest and shortest way of reaching the park is by taking the Brighton Beach "L" train to Consumers' Park station and walking across one block to Cedar Place, arriving right at the entrance to the rotunda.

The admission rates will be as follows: General admission, 75 cents; reserved seats (lower tier), first nine rows on Saturdays and holidays (four rows on other days), \$1; box seats, \$1.50; exchange rates from lower to upper tier, 25 cents. Upper tier: Admission, \$1; box seats, \$1.50. Pavilion: General admission, 50 cents; north end pavilion, 25 cents.

The games will start at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. On Saturdays, however, during the months of June, July and August play will be called at 2:30 o'clock, while on Saturdays during the months of April, May, September and October the first ball will be thrown over at 3 o'clock. On holidays, and Mr. Ebbets looked them all up, play will be called at 10:30 o'clock in the morning and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Among the conveniences which will be found at the new park are a ladies' suite, which is located on the lower tier of the main grandstand, consisting of a rest, private retiring room, with maid, telephone and writing desk; a check-room, where all articles will be checked; a free of charge, incoming telephone messages received and umbrellas loaned at the nominal charge of 10 cents.

Brooklyn owes the fact that she can boast of the finest ball park in the country to Charles H. Ebbets, after whom the park is named. Mr. Ebbets announced that he would build a new home for the Superbas on January 2, 1912, and on that date he also announced that he hoped to play the first game on the new park on either June 14, Flag Day, or on August 27, the one hundred and thirty-sixth anniversary of the Battle of Long Island. The battle of Long Island was waged over the territory now occupied by the ball park, and Mr. Ebbets has history down on his finger tips.

For one reason or another, the park was not finished. From time to time Mr. Ebbets entertained the members of the Baseball Writers' Association and took them on personally conducted tours of the grounds, and the fair city of Brooklyn, New York, all of which Brooklyn has one of the most magnificent monuments to the great national game.

YALE ON NEW YORK COURTS

Dual Team Matches Scheduled with Seventh Regiment.

Lawn tennis teams representing Yale University and the 7th Regiment will meet in the annual dual matches on the outdoor courts of the New York Lawn Tennis Club, at 200th street and Gun Hill Road, on April 12. The competitions had been scheduled to be played upon the armory courts, but several postponements were necessary because of the athletic games. Through the courtesy of the board of governors of the New York club the courts at Williamsbridge were offered. The team that Yale will send to the matches is a most formidable one. It will be composed of Alrick H. Man, Jr., E. W. Peasley, Stanley Wainwright, H. T. Evans and W. Dickson Cunningham. The 7th Regiment team has not been selected, but it is expected that Walter Merrill Hall, the recent winner of the championship, William B. Cragin, Jr., and George G. Moore, Jr., will be included. The committee in charge of the matches includes Robert F. Putnam, A. H. Timmerer, Frank J. Kenney, George S. Hauck, H. Porcupine Hart, George Lee and William Cunningham.